

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PM-03 SP-02 L-01 PRS-01 NSC-05

NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 /042 W

----- 076676

R 091015Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4000

INFO USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 8455

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, TH, US

SUBJECT: CHATCHAI ON U.S. MORALS

REF: STATE 105187

1. CHATCHAI APPARENTLY HAS A NEW SPEECH WRITER: WALT KELLY. ACTUALLY HE WAS NOT REFERRING TO OUR MORALITY, BUT TO OUR MORELS, AND GOT HIS VOWELS MIXED UP. THE WONDER IS, CONSIDERING THE COMMON CONFUSION IN THAI BETWEEN R'S AND L'S, THAT HE DIDN'T ADDRESS OUR MOLARS.

2. BE THE ABOVE AS IT MAY, WE HAVE DETERMINED WHAT HE "REALLY" SAID, BUT THE SITUATION IS STILL TOTALLY CONFUSING. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT IT WAS CHATCHAI, NOT THE UPI THAI REPORTER WHO INTERVIEWED HIM, WHO WAS THE STUMBLE TONGUE. (ALL VERSIONS OF THIS STORY COME FROM THIS UPI EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW. THE REPORTER GAVE A COPY OF HER STORY TO THE "BANGKOK POST" FROM WHICH REUTER'S WROTE ITS DISPATCH.)

3. THE FOLLOWING EXCERPTS FROM A TRANSCRIPT OF UPI'S TAPE OF THE INTERVIEW HAVE RECEIVED A CAREFULLY DOUBLE-CHECKED TRANSLATION, AND FOR THOSE WHO THINK THEIR MINDS MUST BE DECEIVING THEM WE HAVE INCLUDED THE THAI WORDS JUST TO PROVE HOW CONFUSING THE ORIGINAL TEXT WAS.

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BEGIN EXCERPTS:

"REPORTER: HE (SCHLESINGER) FURTHER SAID THAT SHOULD THAILAND ATTACKED FROM OUTSIDE, WOULD AMERICA HAVE TO PROTECT THAILAND OR NOT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH COMMITMENTS UNDER SEATO. HE SAID HE HAS OBLIGATIONS ... THE U.S. HAS ONLY MORAL (SINLATAM) OBLIGATIONS IN THAILAND, REGARDING SEATO.

CHATCHAI: DO YOU MEAN MORALE AID (KHWAN)? HE SAID HE CAN GIVE ONLY MORALE AID (KHWAN). IS THAT CORRECT?

REPORTER: YES. IT MEANS HE COULD GIVE AID OF A MORAL NATURE (MORAL SUPPORT) (SINLATAM).

CHATCHAI: BUT SINCE IT HAS NO MORALS (SINLATAM) LEFT, HOW COULD IT COME AND HELP US? AMERICA HAS NO MORALS (SINLATAM). IT HAS COMPLETELY PULLED OUT.

REPORTER: NO MORALS (SINLATAM) ARE LEFT.

CHATCHAI: SO HOW COULD IT COME AND HELP US?

REPORTER: THEN DOES THAT MEAN WE WILL IMPLEMENT A POLICY IN WHICH WE WILL PROTECT OUR COUNTRY OURSELVES?

CHATCHAI: SELF-RELIANCE...SELF RELIANCE. WE WILL STAND ON OUR OWN FEET. HOW COULD IT COME AND HELP GIVE US MORAL SUPPORT (SINLATAM)? IT HAS NO MORALS (SINLATAM) LEFT, SO HOW COULD IT COME AND GIVE US SUPPORT?

REPORTER: THANK YOU SIR. HE SAID ONLY OF A MORAL NATURE (SINLATAM).

CHATCHAI: MORAL NATURE (SINLATAM)? BUT IT HAS NO MORALS (SINLATAM). IT HAS PULLED OUT COMPLETELY FROM CAMBODIA AND FROM VIETNAM ALREADY. SO HOW COULD IT COME AND GIVE US ANY SUPPORT? END EXCERPTS.

4. COMMENT: ANYONE WHOSE MORALS CHATCHAI CAN SERIOUSLY CALL INTO QUESTION HAS A MORALE PROBLEM. WE WOULD NOT CONFIDENTIAL

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TAKE HIS REMARKS SERIOUSLY.
MASTERS

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